

Friends of the Library Boone County

President's Report for the Year 2020

11/19/2020

Good evening and thank you for attending this annual meeting. This has been, at the very least, an unusual year.

When I was chosen to lead this august group for this year, I lined out two goals. To have an eye-catching logo for the group and to qualify for community grants. Due to the Covid-19 virus we were only able to achieve one of those goals. Miss Laurie Ann Auker was the winner of our logo contest. The grant application process dried up, impacted by the virus, however Ginger Schoenenberger, Boone County Library Director was able to secure \$8,000.00 of CARES money.

Because of the virus safety guidelines, we were unable to hold our usual book sales. However, thanks to the generosity of Jeff and Joe Crockett we were able to have a two-day sale at the Durand Center which netted the FOL \$2,840.25. It was a learning experience; holding off-site sales is a lot more work, but we are grateful for the opportunity. In October FOL participated in the National Friends of the Library Week. A table was set up in the library and FOL members staffed the table resulting in \$145.00 in memberships, both new memberships and renewals and \$40.79 in donations. We are currently testing a program to help fund the library. We have inventoried 6 boxes of books left over from the Durand Center sale and sent that list to a program called Sustainable Shelves. This program is offered through Baker and Taylor, a major book distributor, they will pay for titles that they feel they can resell and recycle what books they can't. The biggest thing is that they will pay for the shipping of the chosen books. The money will go directly to the library, who have agreed to credit it back to whatever we budget for the library support (honor books). This year, 2020, the dollar amount budgeted was \$8,000.00. If the return on time spent is acceptable, we will continue this program, offering books that have been through at least one sale.

We mourn the passing of Mary Wright, and we are working with Ginger to purchase books in the genres she enjoyed as a memorial to her. We also mourn the passing of Chuck Speice, another tireless volunteer.

I am hopeful that by next summer we will be able to once again hold our annual book sales. The dates we have selected for possible sales are: Spring Sale - April 8, 9, 10; Children's Sale - May 14; Fall Sale - Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 2; Holiday Sale - Dec. 4. Again, these are tentative dates, dependent on health restrictions. It will be my honor to help guide this organization through the year 2021.

I do thank each one that has answered the call when we ask for volunteers, but I also ask each of you to search your hearts and offer to become more active by becoming a board officer for the 2022 year or more readily help to sort and price books on Mondays. Please check with Pat Evans regarding this opportunity.

Thank you for your attention.

Penny DeJournett, President, Friends of the Library Boone County, Inc.